Response to Office Action of May 13, 2008

REMARKS

I. Remarks

New claims 75-88 are pending. Claims 1 and 36 have been amended and rewritten as new claims 75 and 82. In view thereof, claims 1, 5-17, 19-24, 31-36, 40-52, 54-59 and 67-74 have been cancelled herein without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter claimed therein. Withdrawn claims 3 and 38, drawn to nonelected species, have also been cancelled herein without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter claimed therein. No issues of new matter should arise and entry of these amendments is respectfully requested.

II. Specification

Applicants respectfully submit the objection to the disclosure is mooted by the amendments to the specification to delete the references to URLs.

III. Enablement

Claims 1, 5-17, 19-24, 31-36, 40-52, 54-59, and 67-74 remain rejected under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, for allegedly lacking enablement for 1) a transgenic fish whose genome comprises any oncogene operably linked to any promoter wherein the oncogene is not expressed and does not cause T-cell lymphoblastic leukemia or 2) a method of using said fish as broadly claimed. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

In a sincere effort to advance prosecution, Applicants have amended and rewritten claims 1 and 36 as new claims 75 and 82, to recite: 1) a transgenic fish whose genome comprises a transgene comprising a cMyc gene operably linked to a Rag2 promoter wherein the oncogene is expressed in lymphoid cells and induces T-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia, and 2) a method of screening drugs or agents that mediate cMyc-induced T-cell lymphoblastic leukemia comprising contacting said transgenic fish with a test drug or agent and comparing the phenotype of said contacted fish to that of said fish prior to contact with said test drug or agent, wherein suppression of the leukemia in said transgenic fish after

contact or exposure to said test drug or agent relative to the leukemia of said fish prior to contact or exposure with said test drug or agent is indicative of a test drug or agent that suppresses oncogene-induced leukemia. Further, method claim 36 has been amended and rewritten to recite in new claim 82, "wherein expression of the oncogene induces T-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia", obviating this aspect of the rejection. New claims 76-81 and 83-88 are dependent from new claims 75 and 82. As stated by the Examiner on page 3 of the Office Action, the specification is enabling for the claims as amended.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims as amended are fully enabled by the application. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the above amendment, Applicants believe the pending application is in condition for allowance.

If the Examiner believes that any further discussion of this communication would be helpful, she is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge the three-month extension of time fee of \$555.00 and any necessary fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 08-0219, under Order No. 0112706.00123US2 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: November 12, 2008

/Belinda M. Lew/
Belinda Lew
Registration No.: 53,212
Attorney for Applicant(s)

Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP 1875 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20006 (202) 663-6000 (telephone) (202) 663-6363 (facsimile)